

PIUTE COUNTY, UTAH
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2021-0209-03

OPPOSING AND CONDEMNING
PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN'S EXECUTIVE ORDER
TO RESTRICT MORE AND MORE PUBLIC LANDS
FROM PUBLIC ACCESS AND MULTIPLE USE AND SUSTAINED YIELD MANAGEMENT

AS SET FORTH IN THE 01/27/2021 PRESIDENTIAL
EXECUTIVE ORDER 14008, SECTIONS 204 & 216
PUBLISHED 02/01/2021

WHEREAS, in order to “combat” an undefined “climate crisis,” President Joe Biden’s January 27, 2021 Executive Order 14008 at Section 204 (“Section 204,” “EO,” or “EO at Section 204”), decrees that public lands management shall be “aligned” to “support robust climate action;”

WHEREAS, Piute County is greatly concerned about the failure to demonstrate what the so-called “climate crisis” is and prove it even exists, and the failure to show what it means to “combat” it, or the failure to show what “robust climate action” entails, or the failure to show what it could possibly mean to “align” public lands management to “support” such “robust climate action.”

WHEREAS, these concerns are heightened in light of the fact that only Congress has the say on public lands policy and management, and that Congress has long since laid down a *multiple use and sustained yield* policy and standard for managing and conserving public lands;

WHEREAS, this confusion is made worse under the President’s Executive Order, EO 14008 at Section 216, entitled “*Conserving our Nation’s Lands and Waters*,” wherein a goal is declared of “conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030.”

WHEREAS, additionally, Section 216 gives the Secretary of Agriculture 60 days to gather input from a range of stakeholders (but amazingly not from elected state and county leaders) on how to reduce wildfire risk, reduce carbon emissions, sequester carbon and source sustainable bioproducts and fuels;

WHEREAS, radical environmental groups seek to spin the “alignment of management” language of Section 204 and spin the “conserve 30 percent by 2030” phrase of Section 216 to

recycle their tried and failed 1990s era wilderness designation bills, all in a frenzy to make millions of more acres of Utah public lands fall victim to the wilderness designation;

WHEREAS, designating more wilderness and other special designations is not the answer for true conservation of public lands; it is the opposite;

WHEREAS, experience has shown time and time again that public lands which fall prey to the wilderness, roadless, national monument designations become the most degraded, the most hostile to wildlife, the most restrictive of water yield, and the most prone to catastrophic fire, erosion, exodus of wildlife, and succession of invasive weed and water limiting old growth;

WHEREAS, the BLM and Forest Service's current *multiple use and sustained yield* policies and standards under existing law, are designed to effectively and truly conserve Piute County's public lands if the BLM and Forest Service will only apply those standards without bowing to pressure from special interest groups;

WHEREAS, experience has shown time and time again that the best way to conserve and enhance public lands and their resources for the good of all, is to follow the current law's *multiple use and sustained yield management* policies and standards found in the Congressional organic acts for the BLM, Forest Service, National Parks Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Reclamation, and to give heed to Utah's state and local government resource management plans and policies to the maximum extent they are consistent with existing Federal law;

WHEREAS, if the Biden Administration were truly serious about reducing wildfire risk, reducing carbon emissions, sequestering carbon and sourcing sustainable bioproducts and fuels, they would look to and coordinate with Utah's state and local government resource management plans and policies, which call for robust thinning of forests and robust removal of forest understory, and robust reclaiming of grasslands from decades of woody growth and invasive succession;

WHEREAS, the work and activities to bring about the active management described in the two previous paragraphs is impossible under a wilderness, roadless or other restrictive, so-called "special designations" which is what the radical advocacy groups are clamoring for;

WHEREAS, all told, the conservation referenced in the EO at Sections 204 and 216 that the Biden Administration seem to looking for, is right under their noses in the form of existing public lands management laws, if they will only be reasonably executed and carried out; and

WHEREAS, the only “aligning” that needs to be done to meet their stated goals, misguided as they may be, is for the Biden lead BLM, Forest Service and other land management agencies to “align” themselves with the current *multiple use and sustained yield* law, policy and standards, and look to Utah state and local government plans and policies for the details.

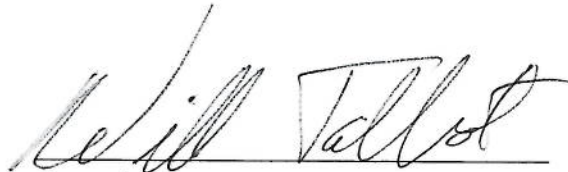
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Piute County goes on record opposing the language and objectives found in Sections 204 and 216 of President Biden’s January 27, 2021 Executive Order 14008;
2. Piute County urges the Biden Administration to reverse and terminate these sections
3. Piute County urges the Biden Administration to recognized the illegality of these sections and how they usurp Congressional authority over public lands;
4. Piute County urges the Biden Administration to recognize the prudence and wisdom of adhering to existing public lands management laws, particularly the *multiple use and sustained yield* policies and standards, and to concentrate on enforcing those policies and standards without giving in to the pressure of radical extremist groups, whose goals are to put more and more lands off limits, thereby subjecting them to catastrophic environmental degradation;
5. For help in doing this, Piute County recommends the Biden Administration consult and coordinate with Utah state and local governments and their well thought out resource management plans and policies;
6. Piute County urges the Biden Administration to wake up to the disastrous situation of our public land forests and slopes, and rescue them from catastrophic wildfire, carbon emissions and water degradation, by allowing existing laws to take effect, which would provide for the active management that is so badly needed on public lands;
7. Piute County urges the Biden Administration to wake up to the misguided aims of the radical environmental lobby, who relentlessly push for more and more wilderness, roadless and other land designations, which only make environmental conditions worse; and
8. Piute County urges Utah and other western states and local governments and their associations to aggressively take all necessary legal action to block and reverse the execution of Sections 204 and 216 of the President’s January 27, 2021 Executive Order 14008.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY and signed this 9th day of February, 2021.


PIUTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Kali Gleave
Piute County Clerk